

I am very alarmed and upset by Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to force their stations to air "Stolen Honor" an anti-Kerry documentary. That this is taking place days before the election is clearly a media corporate attempt to throw the election. I see this as an example of the dangers of media consolidation. The public airwaves are our airways, the public airwaves. The better interest of public decision making and of this democracy are not being served by a few individuals that essentially run the media and work to smear the reputations of candidates running for office which they do not support. The fact that this is being done right before the election when no timely response can be made to this political advertisement is a grave misuse of the airwaves.

Sinclair uses the public airwaves free of charge, and is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we get more of what's good for the bottom line and less of what we need for our democracy. Instead of something produced at "News Central" far away, it's more important that we see real people from our own communities and more substantive news about issues that matter.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.